



What does an arborist do?

An arborist deals with all aspects of tree care, such as tree planting, maintenance (which requires knowledge of insects and diseases), use of specialized pruning and removal techniques, fertilization, and use of mechanized equipment. Training involves instruction in trimming tree branches, using power and hand tools safely, and setting up and using ropes and rigging safely in trees. The job involves hard physical labour such as climbing trees and lifting cut branches.



"My career as an arborist has not only challenged and expanded my knowledge of the care of trees, but has also given me insight into the tree care industry, an opportunity to develop skills that will last a lifetime, and a chance to benefit the environment."

Peter Wynnyczuk, arborist

The outlook for work as an arborist

The creation of new jobs in this trade is expected to keep pace with general growth in the economy. Steady growth in new residential developments, as well as increased interest in the environment and trees, drives demand for arborist services.

An aging population is also increasing demand for grounds maintenance and arborist services. Both private employers and different levels of government hire arborists.

QUICK FACTS ON APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING FOR AN ARBORIST

Length of time to train	Three to four years
Courses and skills that can help you prepare for a career as an arborist	Communication skills, biology, math, an understanding of physics, and an ability to work at heights
Salary range for apprentices and skilled arborists (overtime and bonuses not included)	\$20,300 to \$50,300

Apprenticeship training

Apprenticeship is hands-on training for people who enjoy learning by doing. The training provides access to well-paying jobs that demand a high level of skills, judgement, and creativity. Apprentices are paid while gaining work experience, and their wages increase with their level of skills.

About 90 per cent of apprenticeship training occurs in the workplace and is provided by employers or sponsors who train apprentices to standards of skill and safety that are set by industry. The remainder of the training involves classroom instruction on theory, which is usually given at a local community college or provided by another approved training organization.

To become an apprentice arborist, an applicant must find an employer who is willing to train. Such jobs are rarely advertised, and, instead, employers often rely on word of mouth to attract applicants. People who want to become apprentices usually apply directly to an employer, union, or local apprenticeship committee.

Skilled workers who have received their training in Ontario can work anywhere in the province. Agreements among the provinces and territories allow certified skilled workers in certain trades to work anywhere in Canada. Training consultants at ministry apprenticeship offices can provide more information.

For more information

If you have a question about becoming an apprentice arborist, call the Ontario government's Training Hotline at **1-888-JOB-GROW**. In Toronto, call **(416) 326-5656**.

If you are in high school, talk to your guidance counsellor. If you are in college or university, contact your campus placement office for help.

To find out about careers as an arborist, check out Career Gateway at www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca.

Information in this flyer came from *Ontario Job Futures* and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.



WHAT APPRENTICES AND SKILLED WORKERS SAY ABOUT APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

Apprenticeship training is relevant to the job I do now.	81 per cent
If faced with the same decision, I would choose to take apprenticeship training again.	85 per cent

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be an arborist



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